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NAMI Westchester, Inc. 100 Clearbrook Rd. Elmsford, NY 10523 (914) 592-5458 Namiwalks.org/westchester

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Dear Harrison Town Board Members,

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Westchester, will be holding its first annual Walk at Rye Town Park on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013. We would like to request permission to place approximately 5 two prong stake signs in the Harrison community to raise awareness about the Walk and offer them an opportunity to participate in "stomping out stigma" surrounding mental illness in Westchester County.

The signs are  $12 \times 18$  inches. I have attached a copy of one for your review. We would like to start posting them the week of April  $29^{th}$  and we will remove them the week of May  $20^{th}$ .

NAMI--the National Alliance on Mental Illness--is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with mental illness and their families. We are committed to seeking the elimination of stigma associated with mental illness. Through our programs, we provide support and education for families and friends of people with mental illness, as well as those who suffer from mental illness. As advocates, we educate the community on mental illness and issues of public policy that impact the lives of those living with mental illness.

NAMI Westchester impacts hundreds of people each year through our Support Groups, Family to Family education courses, In Our Own Voice presentations by individuals living with mental illness, and a new program--Parents & Teachers as Allies--where NAMI representatives speak with teachers and educators about identifying early symptoms of mental illness at school.

Thank you for considering our request and allowing the Harrison community to participate in mental health awareness in Westchester County.

Sincerely,

Mariadora Saladino NAMI Westchester Walk Manager